

Olympic Rental Fever Grips Wasatch

But demand isn't likely to be as strong as the Front

TIM WESTBY
COURIER STAFF

When tickets for the 2002 Winter Games went on sale last October, demand for private home rentals was immediately strong. Demand were ratcheted up a notch in February, after SLOC started sending out confirmation letters to the hopeful throngs that ordered tickets.

Despite the often overwhelming number of phone calls that property managers are receiving and the big numbers some homeowners have tossed about, the rental market for Wasatch County is still sketchy.

Bob Mathis, Wasatch County's Olympic Coordinator, calls the demand moderate. "There is a demand but people are not snapping up everything," says Mathis. "It's more of a buyer's market than a seller's market."

Carolyn Hogwood agrees. Hogwood runs Midway Designs Property Management, which rents out homes just for the Olympics. With



PHOTO BY TIM WESTBY

With the Olympics less than a year away, hotels, B&Bs and homeowners are hoping to cash in.

some exceptions, Hogwood says the average homeowner in the Heber-Midway area can expect to rent for about \$100-a-night per person. In fact, she is beginning to get a lot of calls from people looking just for a couple of

rooms to rent because they only plan to catch three or four days worth of action.

While demand is strong, Hogwood says, she has stopped accepting homes for the time being until she catches up on the demand. "People hear some of the prices people are getting and they think they can stick it to [spectators] for a lot of money," says Hogwood.

And for spectators who are willing to drive, there are still deals out there. Hogwood says she got a call recently from one spectator who found a hotel room for \$83 in Logan even though his venues are at Park City, the Rice-Eccles Stadium at the University of Utah and the E Center in West Valley City. "He got a room for a \$83, but he's going drive a \$180 miles a day," says Hogwood.

Mathis puts the lack of crushing demand for private rentals in the Heber Valley in perspective.

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"To the extent they are Quinn's cows—and we don't know whose cows they are—but if they are his, they are his to deal with as he sees fit."

—Grand Staircase Monument Manager Kate Cannon justifying rancher Quinn Griffin's hiring of a helicopter pilot and a rifleman to shoot 27 of Griffin's emaciated cows that the Bureau of Land Management had ordered Griffin to remove from monument land.

"We don't want to take what's moral and sacrifice it for too much liberal art."

—Richard Stucki, Moab, objecting to

Sources: Salt Lake Tribune, As

SIGNPOSTS

Jed H. Wood confuses on stairway wall and shoots his wife, Sesame, pistol, kept for fun. Hit in right eye is treated and Fetus is unharmed.

America departs ZCMI Cooperative

RENTALS

CONTINUED FROM A1

Lake City, which have more commercial units. If people are going to spend big money they're going to want commercial [accommodations] because they have more privacy," says Mathis.

Mathis says he won't know for sure until this summer how many home private residences will be needed to fill demand for lodging.

Salt Lake-based Coldwell Banker Premier Reality is SLOC's official provider for residential accommodations. As of late last week the company had 345 homes ready to rent on their Web site, utah-homes.com. Seventeen were in Wasatch County with prices ranging from \$925 a night for a two-bedroom single-family home in Heber to \$2,257 nightly for a six-bedroom home in Midway.

Kent Schlopy, director of Coldwell Banker rental program, says demand for homes in the Heber area was light until last week. He plans on adding a handful of homes to program, but for now, at least, doesn't foresee adding too many.

"We don't want to take too much inventory," says Schlopy, "and frustrate the homeowner."

SLOC originally believed there would be a demand for about 750 private residences to meet lodging demands for the Games. Coldwell Banker believes that number could go as high as 1,000. Early on SLOC reserved 1,005 rooms in Wasatch County for Olympic officials, the

media, sponsors and others.

For those who aren't as interested in making a buck off the Games, there is SLOC's Athlete Family HomeStay Program where residents allow athletes, coaches and their family members to stay free of charge in their homes.

But Mathis, whose family is in the program, is not worried about finding enough families to open up their homes. During recent World Cup events more Heber Valley residents were willing to take in athletes than was needed.

One of those families, Ken and Mignon Probst of Charleston had two athletes from Minnesota stay with them for last weekend's World Cup Biathlon at Soldier Hollow.

When asked about how the experience was going, Ken Probst responded, "seems fine." Probst says he and his wife decided to join the program after an official at their church official promoted it.

He and his wife thought only briefly about trying to rent out their home. "But this seems like it will be more of a benefit to the Games and in the spirit of the Utah," he says.

While some people prefer to rent, others will be "horrified" at the idea of making money off the Olympics, says Mathis. And some "just want to be left alone."

"We don't want to ask people to do things they are uncomfortable doing," says Mathis. "I think people in this community are going to help as much as they can."

NTARY

b in Wasatch County

a Tree House

igh and wanted a break down of the charges sand an explanation of where his extra money was going. It took months of requests to get a sketchy breakdown and they were never told where the money went." (The Courier has learned that the County was charging the Fire Board \$32.14 per hour for Mr. Ivie's time broken down as, Base \$13.61, Tax & Burden \$8.17, Office Overhead \$5.00, County Overhead at 20 percent \$5.36 for a total of \$32.14 per hour)

The final blow, according to this board member came when County Commissioner and also Fire Board member LaRen Provost was forced to resign from the Fire board because of his conflict of interest. The board member's report says, that the fire board was likely disbanded because Commissioner Provost had signed the contracts for the (ordanelle) fire station illegally. This fit the commission with no choice but to take control of the district. He also inspected the county wanted the power back it had lost to the board. As evidence he said that soon after the

without the Fire Board and selected the new Firemen. This is the absolute definition of a club, a group who votes to select its' own members. According to Board minutes May 13, 1997 the Board tried to take back the authority to hire and fire. Then Board Chairman Giles felt that the Board should chose the firemen and not send them on to the firemen for approval as had been done in the past. LaRen Provost expressed concerns that the firemen like to select people they can work with and felt it was a good gesture to let the firemen vote.

Why would there be such contention for a job that paid \$500 a month? In the context of the times and the local economy, an additional \$500 a month was a fair amount of change to many families. Further, that money could be used to buy into the state insurance program with it's excellent benefit to cost ratio. A much sought after "perk" indeed.

So have things changed? There are still no women firefighters. The hiring of the Duke boys and Robert Morris show that it still helps to have friends and family involved in the hiring process. Has the addition of the only full time staffed fire station in the val-

Venues Ready for 2002 Games

Soldier Hollow and Park City host final 'test' events before Olympics

DEREK JENSEN

MANAGING EDITOR

5-7-01

The glare of winter Olympic competition shone brightly on the Wasatch Back over the weekend, then quickly went away—until next February.

Under brilliant sunny skies, Soldier Hollow and Park City Mountain Resort hosted their final Olympic test events before next year's Games. By most athlete accounts, the competitions were a success, leading organizers to proudly deem the venues Olympic-ready.

Yet part of the time last week, the same sun and warm weather that attracted spectators posed serious problems for the snow. Skiers had to power across the soft track at Soldier Hollow for the biathlon World Cup during the week, while snowboarders had to do the same Sunday during the parallel



PHOTO BY DEREK JENSEN
A rider cavorts above the edge of PCMR's superpipe, the venue for the 2002 snowboard halfpipe competition.

slalom at PCMR.

But the spectator-friendly weather

brought large and rowdy crowds, especially for the snowboard competition in PCMR's new superpipe. Fans lined both walls of the halfpipe and crowded the base of the resort. Nearly 10,000 school kids were bussed in for the event.

The superpipe was filled and smoothed by Sunday to make way for the giant slalom.

Several thousand students, along with vocal "Spirit Leaders" were also on hand at Soldier Hollow for biathlon. The phalanx impressed the European press—on assignment to broadcast the event live across Europe.

The snowboarding World Cup will air March 11 on ESPN.

Both venues now have less than a year to brace for bigger crowds than they've ever seen.

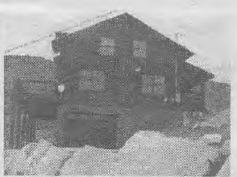
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DANIEL-23 ACRES WITH TREES AND STREAM AT BASE OF HILLS. \$598,000

With passage of three anti-nuclear waste storage bills, Gov. Mike Leavitt and the Utah Legislature construct a legal fence around the state, intended to prevent burial of spent nuclear fuel rods on the Goshute Reservation. But they leave Goshutes high and dry, killing \$2 million in development funds.



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Jordanelle State Park News

3-7-01

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Applicants must have boat registration information and pay the five-month season fee of \$200 at the time of application.

Those interested in on-the-water boat slips must complete an application by February 28. Applications are now available online at <http://parks.state.ut.us/parks/www1/jord.preapp.htm> or at the following locations: Utah State Parks and Recreation (801) 538-7220 1594 West North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah

"Northeast Region Off ice (435) 649-9109

Located 10 miles north of

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Jordanelle State Park Visitor Center (435) 649-9540

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FUTURE OLYMPIANS.

WANTED

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For only \$30, students receive trail passes, equipment, and Saturday lessons for the remain-

der of the winter season. No previous experience is required.

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For more information, please call Dave Jarrett at (435) 503-1116 or email at djarrett@libertbay.com. Students may also contact the Soldier Hollow Legacy Foundation at (435) 654-2002 or via email at info@soldierhollow.org.

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World Cup Number Three Hits Soldier Hollow

"WORLD CUP" FROM PAGE B1

participating in the Olympics next year.

Races will begin at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday morning, and will conclude at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday's races will only include the biathlon.

On Friday, the short distance, sit-ski race will be held. These races will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday's races will begin at 8:15 a.m. Saturday's races will include the long distance sit-ski, and standing classic races. Sunday will feature the mens relay and the womens relay races.

PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES HISTORY:

The Paralympic movement began as the dream of English neurosurgeon Sir Ludwig Guttmann. He wanted to provide athletes with disabilities the opportunity to compete at an international level equivalent to that of non-disabled athletes at the Olympics for athletes with disabilities.

Rome hosted the first Paralympic Games in 1960 with

400 athletes representing 23 countries. Although the term Paralympics originally was derived from the word paraplegic, the prefix para is now interpreted to mean parallel, thus defining the Games for disabled athletes as complementary to the Olympic Games.

Ornskoldsvik, Sweden hosted the first Paralympic Winter Games in 1976. Considered the beginning of the modern Paralympics, the 1988 Paralympic Summer Games in Seoul, Korea, clearly shifted the Games from a "rehab" model to one of sport and athletic competition. Since the 1992 Games in Albertville, France, the city hosting the Olympic Games has also hosted the Paralympic Games.

Created in 1989, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) coordinates and develops the modern Paralympic Games. The organization has headquarters in Bonn, Germany. Dr. Robert Steadward, a resident of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, serves as volunteer president. The IPC awards the Games to a host city "determines the sports, disciplines and events

included in the Paralympic program, invites National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) to participate in each Paralympics, establishes a medical code for Paralympic participants that includes the testing for use of banned substances, administers the sale of worldwide Paralympic marketing rights, and oversees the activities of the Organizing Committees for the Paralympics.

The Salt Lake Organizing Committee (SLOC) is a non-profit, private organization responsible for all aspects of organizing, planning, staging and financing the Paralympic Winter Games of 2002. SLOC is governed by a Board of Trustees chaired by Mr. Robert H. Garff. SLOC's president and CEO is Mr. W. Miff Romney.

National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) coordinate and develop the Paralympic movement in their respective country or region. The NPC in the United States-one of the few countries in which the Olympic and Paralympic committees are the same-is the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC).

Ring In With "Two Enthusiastic Thumbs Up"



Renowned "Swiss Handbell Choir," is hosting "The Annual Spring Massed Ring In," on Saturday, March 17, at 7:00 p.m., at Murray High School.

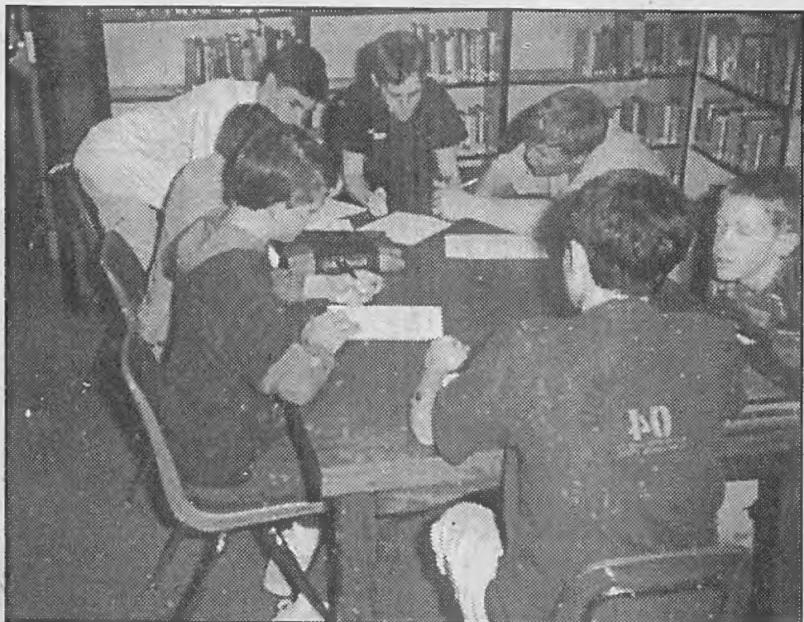
With the largest gathering of Handbell Choirs ever to assemble in the state of Utah, totaling 15 in all, it's sure to be a Musical Extravaganza, Four Stars, two Thumbs Up Event!

The Swiss Handbell Ringers will perform their masterpiece entitled "Parade of the Wooden Soldier," which they performed at the Kurt Bestor, Christmas Concerts to the absolute delight of all audiences.

Six musical numbers will be performed by the combined 15 Handbell Choirs, with each choir presenting their own

solo masterpiece. Guest Director and Clinician Brian Downey, will work with all the choirs throughout the day in preparation for this extraordinary concert.

The concert is open to the public for a "most enjoyable evening of music and entertainment," said Britt Wilde, Chairperson of this year's Massed Ring In.



Ms. Orr's advisory group works on eighth grade curriculum fair project.

It's starting to smell and feel like Spring. The boys are on the soccer and baseball fields, the girls had their first softball game Monday, and students came to school with Spring skiing tans from the weekend. The longer the days become the more we will all want to be outside. Help your students stay on track with homework by reminding them that homework comes first. Parents may want to help students stay on top of school work: limit a student's time spent watching television and paying computer and other electronic

games. Weekends are a good time to catch up on these extra curricular activities, not to mention enjoying the Spring weather.

This week's theme: Respect: Building Character Muscles. Take inventory. Do you live by some of these great ideas? Better yet, do you hold your student to these ideas? "The Buck stops here." Harry S. Truman "If someone gives you a privilege, you owe them a responsibility." Unknown. "My daddy used to ask us whether the teacher had given us homework. If we said no, he'd say, 'Well, assign your-

self'" Marian Wright Edelman. Use this time to talk about responsibility and its impact on success in school and other areas of life.

The eighth grade A team is hosting a curriculum fair Wednesday, March 7, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the girls' gym. Parents are welcome and encouraged to come and see the students projects. It is mandatory that all eighth grade A team students be there. Students have been researching a specific time in history (most were decade periods) and have made timelines, newspapers, and written a research paper.

These projects will be on display at the curriculum fair. Students are even encouraged to dress up in a costume representing their decade (for extra credit). This project has been a unique experience in integrating curriculum from many of the eighth grade core classes. Team A teachers worked together to organize, coordinate and assess the projects according to each teacher's discipline. Please show your support for their efforts by attending!

Students were asked to complete a survey on school climate. Parents may find the results interesting. The survey shows which areas of school climate students feel improvement is needed and which areas we are doing better than expected.

SPORTS

MARCH 7, 2001



PAGE B1



Wave photo by Courtney Gressmen

Wasatch Rodeo Club member Sara Sulser, jumps off her horse during the goat tying competition on Friday. Members of the rodeo club gave biathletes of rodeo during the World Cup over the weekend.

Cowboys and Cowgirls Give Biathletes a Taste of Rodeo

BY COURTNEY GREESMEN
Wave Sports Editor

Last week, the Wasatch High School Rodeo Club gave biathletes a taste of what a Western rodeo was like.

With over 300 people packed into Sy Kimball's barn. The rodeo club presented a fantastic show.

There were over 13 events the cowboys and cowgirls competed in.

Kamas' Kolt Leifsen, won the bareback riding with an overall score of 88.

Utah National team member, Kayla Sessions, won the pole bending and barrel racing events. Sessions was the top winner in last year's Utah State Finals in pole bending.

Leifsen then took top honors in the saddle bronc riding, and Wasatch's Sara Sulser won the

goat tying. Sulser is currently number one in the state in goat tying.

Jeremy Horrocks won the bull riding, with his score of .90, and Cody Wade and Riley Probst won the team roping event. Both Riley Johnson and Wade won the steer wrestling.

The rodeo club would like to thank Utah State Directors Ken and Lyndia Norris, and Utah State President Riley Johnson for attending the nights event. They would also like to thank Sy Kimball for helping them make the rodeo a success, and letting them use his barn. Plus, the county for all of their help.

Following the rodeo, awards were handed out to the athletes for the days events.

The rodeo club would like to thank the following sponsors for helping them put on their rodeo, which will be held in May:

M.J. Holmes, Jennifer Shelton Avon, Lake Side Auto, Lone Peak Gas, Century 21, Davis/Coleman Reality, Clint Kelson, Apple-a-Day, Wright Ford, Chicks Cafe, Keith's Feed, C&C Drywall, Mountainland One-Stop, Rockwater Salon and Spa, Mountainland Metal Works, Fast Track Sports, Heber Valley Physical Therapy, Hub Cafe, Kayle Jacobsen Trucking, KC Auto Body, Shayne Cluff Construction, Arcadia Vet Clinic, Chrysalis Hair Designs, Gary Sessions Plumbing, Mountain Valley Construction, Steven Brown DDS, Super Wash, Dairy Keen and Swiss Alps Inn, Latimer's Do It Best, Olpin-Hoops Mortuary, Clyde's Billiards, Heber Office Products, High Uintah Construction, Jeff Brisk Construction, Morgan Auto Body, and the Cabinet Company by L&L.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

County Sports, Activities, & Recreation
Schedule At a GlanceEvents Scheduled**Wasatch High Sports****Wasatch @ Lonepeak (softball)**

The Wasatch High School girls softball team will have their first home game of the season on Wednesday, March 7. Granite will come into town to take on the Lady Wasps. All games will be played at Southfield Park (the new complex). Game time will be at 3:30 p.m., with a JV game following.

Wasatch @ St. George Tournament (softball)

The Lady Wasps will travel to sunny St. George on Friday and Saturday, for the annual Sunshine Tournament. This tournament will help prepare the Wasps for upcoming games this season. Games will be played at Dixie State College and surrounding areas. Times will be announced at the tournament.

Wasatch @ Ogden (baseball)

The Wasatch High School baseball team is ready to start this year off on a the right foot. Last year the Wasps lost to Ogden in a very close game. This year they get another chance. Wasatch will travel to Ogden on Wednesday, March 7, game time will be at 3:00 p.m., with a JV game following.

Wasatch @ Morgan (baseball)

The Wasatch High School baseball team has a pretty good record against the Morgan Trojans and this year they hope to pick up another win. Wasatch will travel to Morgan on Thursday, March 8, game time will be at 3:00 p.m., with a JV game following. The Wasps are fully stacked this year and are looking toward a region championship and possibly a state championship.

Grantsville @ Wasatch (baseball)

Finally, after two games on the road, Wasatch will get to stage their first home game of the sea-

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